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NOTES FROM THE MEDICAL PRESS

IN CHARGE OF
ELISABETH ROBINSON SCOVIL

INDUCED IMMUNITY TO ENTERIC DISEASES.—*The Canadian Medical Association Journal* has an editorial on the result of experiments in induced immunity to enteric diseases made at the Pasteur Institute. It was found that when an animal was sensitized by the administration of ox gall, living cultures of typhoid, paratyphoid or dysentery bacilli given by mouth produced the disease. The lesions were found only in the intestine. It is argued that if a human being is first sensitized by the taking of ox gall, the ingestion by the mouth of killed cultures of the enteric diseases will set up a complete protection against future infection. If these results are proved clinically, epidemics will lose their terrors.

THE DISCOVERER OF ETHER.—*William Thomas Green Morton*, the discoverer of ether as an anesthetic, has been elected to a place in the Hall of Fame. Professor Welch says, "Surgical anesthesia has been America's greatest contribution to medicine and surgery."

HEREDITARY EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL.—*The Journal of the American Medical Association* states that experiments have shown that even as small an amount of alcohol as 0.25 cc, given daily, reduced the growth of white rats and lessened the duration of life. This and larger amounts up to 2.25 cc daily caused partial or complete sterility in both sexes, a large proportion of still births, and a progeny with a high infant mortality,—the effects extending to subsequent generations.

CATS AS DIPHTHERIA CARRIERS.—In a case reported in *The American Journal of The Medical Science* a woman died of diphtheria after being in contact with two cats, both of which died. Diphtheria bacilli, which infected guinea pigs, were isolated from the cats. It thus seems possible that cats may contract diphtheria and communicate it to human beings.